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GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 876)

Name of Candidate	AKHIL PILANI		
Medium Eng./Hindi	ENGLISH	Registration Number	26515
Center	ORN	Date	11/10/2017

INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
4	12.5	
5	12.5	
6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
10	12.5	
11	12.5	
12	12.5	
13	12.5	
14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Answer all the questions in NOT MORE THAN 200 WORDS each. Content of the answers is more important than its length. All questions carry equal marks.

12.5X20=250

1. While India has taken a number of steps in order to substantially improve its ranking in the World Bank's 'Ease of Doing Business' Index, it needs to take further action in this regard. Elaborate. Also analyse the utility of these rankings vis-a-vis India's objective of facilitating a sound entrepreneurial environment.

जहां, भारत ने विश्व बैंक के 'इज ऑफ़ डूइंग बिज़नेस' (व्यापार करने की सुगमता) सूचकांक में अपनी रैंकिंग में सार्थक सुधार करने हेतु कई कदम उठाए हैं, वहीं भारत को इस संबंध में आगे और अधिक कार्यवाही करने की आवश्यकता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। साथ ही सुदृढ़ उद्यमिता वातावरण प्रदान करने के भारत के उद्देश्य के परिप्रेक्ष्य में ऐसी रैंकिंग की उपयोगिता का भी विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India ranked 130 in World Bank's 'Ease of Doing Business' Index, improving its ranking by just 1 compared to the previous year.

Steps taken by India to improve its ranking :

a) Implementing GST for indirect tax reform

b) Streamlining processes, procedures by removing bureau-cratic delays, single window clearance system (Invest India) etc.

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c) Ease for entry and exit of firms. e.g simple registration of Companies, easy exit by implementing Insolvency and Bankruptcy code.

d) India has significantly improved its ranking in some of the parameters e.g getting electricity connection

e) Improving infrastructure: roads, railways, ports, inland waterways.

The above steps need to be augmented by the following:

a) Improving physical infrastructure
b) Direct tax reforms, reducing exemptions etc
c) Reforming labour laws
d) Greater use of ICT in governance
e) Improving transparency and accountability

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The World Bank Ranking's ~~are~~ do not fully reflect India's efforts because

a) They ignore the reforms by states like Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and measure their index considering only 2 cities - Delhi and Mumbai

b) Many reforms are taken after the cutoff date, so they are not reflected in the rankings

Still, India should try to improve its ranking as it can improve India's image in the global business environment.

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2. In wake of the agrarian crisis that the country is witnessing, discuss the need for adopting an income-centric approach in preference to a production-centric one as the basis of agricultural policy. In this context, also highlight the steps that should be taken to achieve the goal of doubling the income of farmers by 2021-22 and the challenges that exist.

देश द्वारा सामना किए जा रहे कृषि संकट के आलोक में, कृषि नीति के आधार के रूप में उत्पादन-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण के स्थान पर आय-केंद्रित दृष्टिकोण अपनाने की आवश्यकता पर चर्चा कीजिए। इस संदर्भ में, 2021-22 तक किसानों की आय दोगुना करने का लक्ष्य प्राप्त करने के लिए जो कदम उठाए जाने चाहिए, उनके साथ-साथ विद्यमान चुनौतियों पर भी प्रकाश डालिए।

The agrarian crisis is reflected by stagnating yields, increasing farmer distress, low incomes, post harvest losses etc.

The production centric approach focusses on ~~f~~ consumer and market and ignores the producer ie. the farmer. Thus market controls and regulation of agriculture ensures that production is adequate and interests of the consumer and the economy are maintained.

In order to secure the interest of the farmers, there is need

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to shift to income centric approach which guarantees a basic income to the farmers for their produce. MS Swaminathan report also suggests that MSP should ~~by~~ be 50% more than cost of production.

Steps to double farmer income

a) Improve agricultural productivity: Agro climatic cropping pattern, climate smart agriculture, GM crops

b) Water and Fertilizer Use: Rationalizing ~~NP~~ fertilizer subsidy, improving N:P:K ratio (4:2:1), irrigation facilities, micro irrigation etc

c) Integrated farming system: Agro forestry, livestock, fisheries etc can supplement

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the incomes

d) Pricing and marketing freedom: APMC reforms, eNAM, export freedom for commodities, reforming essential commodities Act

e) other measures: Improving infrastructure (roads, storage infra etc), organic farming etc

Challenges: Farmers lack control over access to credit, insurance, pricing, marketing of produce etc. Also vulnerability to monsoon, faulty cropping pattern, poor implementation of policies etc are some of the challenges.

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3. It is argued that India's fiscal centre of gravity has rapidly shifted from the Centre to the States. Analyse the statement in context of the debate on fiscal discipline. Also, enumerate the key recommendations of the N.K. Singh panel on Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act.

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि भारत का राजकोषीय गुरुत्वाकर्षण का केंद्र तेजी से केन्द्र से राज्यों की ओर स्थानांतरित हुआ है। राजकोषीय अनुशासन पर वाद-विवाद के संदर्भ में इस कथन का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, राजकोषीय उत्तरदायित्व एवं बजट प्रबंधन अधिनियम पर एन. के. सिंह पैनल की प्रमुख अनुशंसाओं को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Fiscal policy is the use of government revenue collection and expenditure to influence the economy. Fiscal discipline is maintaining a limit on fiscal spending.

How India's fiscal centre of gravity has shifted from Centre to States.

a) Greater devolution to States according to recommendation of 14th Finance Commission

b) The concept of Special Category states is no longer used

c) Rationalizing Centrally Sponsored Schemes

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d) Niti Aayog – replacing Planning Commission

The recent events and policies of states have impacted the fiscal discipline

a) UDAY scheme for restructuring Power DISCOMS

b) Loan waivers to farmers given by states like Uttar Pradesh.

Recommendations of NK Singh panel on Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act

a) Repeal the existing act ~~and~~

b) Flexibility to Centre on maintaining fiscal deficit at 3% by 2017-18

c) Debt to GDP should by 60% from current 69%. Out of it,

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40% for Centre and 20% for States

d) Fiscal Council should be established for independent assessment of fiscal policy. advising government on escape clause

e) ESCAPE CLAUSE : The government can trigger the escape clause to push the fiscal limits in cases like structural reforms, war, natural disaster etc

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4. Strategic sale of state-run firms is a prudent step to deal with the challenges being faced by the public sector enterprises in India. Comment. Also enumerate other measures that can be taken in light of NITI Aayog's suggestions in this regard.

भारत में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उद्यमों द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों से निपटने के लिए राज्य-संचालित उद्यमों की रणनीतिक बिक्री एक विवेकपूर्ण कदम है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही इस संबंध में नीति आयोग के सुझावों के प्रकाश में उठाए जा सकने वाले अन्य उपायों को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

Strategic sale refers to divesting shares in the company as well as management control.
The government no longer remains the largest shareholder.
How strategic sale is a prudent step to deal with challenges faced by PSE's in India

a) Raise revenue for the company, which can be invested back or used to create infrastructure.
b) Improve efficiency and meritocracy
c) Better allocation of resources
d) Promote competition

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

c) Introduce professionalism from the private sector

f) Reduce burden on the exchequer

g) Raise revenue for State and meet its target: 72000 crore in 2017-18

However, strategic sale is criticized :

a) Goes against idea of ~~socialistic economy~~ socialism

b) Crony capitalism and under valuation of public assets

c) No guarantee that private sector will improve efficiency and profits.

NITI Aayog's suggestions

a) Strengthening profit making public sector enterprises

b) Strategic sale of loss making units

c) Monetizing assets of public

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sector enterprises e.g. prime land of PSE's can be monetized

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

5. Shell companies in India are neither legally defined nor properly understood. Analyse in the light of recent developments, prevalent understanding and steps required to effectively deal with shell companies.
भारत में शेल कंपनियां न तो कानूनी रूप से परिभाषित हैं और न ही उनके विषय में उचित समझ है। हाल के घटनाक्रमों, व्याप्त (प्रचलित) समझ और शेल कंपनियों से प्रभावी ढंग से निपटने हेतु आवश्यक कदमों के आलोक में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

There is no formal definition of a Shell Company. However, a shell Company is understood to be one that does not have active business operations or physical assets. It is usually incorporated for tax evasion or avoidance purposes, money laundering, hiding black money etc.

They are not legally defined in Companies Act. Also they are not properly understood as some shell companies may be used for legitimate purpose

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also - e.g Incorporating a shell company to raise funds for a start up.

In order to curb tax evasion, money laundering etc, the government has cancelled the licenses of over 1.5 lakh companies which it considered to be shell companies.

PROS of such a step :

a) Tackle black money

b) Curb tax evasion

c) strengthening provisions related to BEPS, FATF guidelines, information sharing

d) Useful for national security as well ∵ such companies are a part of money laundering

CONS : a) Legitimate companies

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

may also suffer

STEPS Required : a) Define shell company in the Companies Act

b) Strict action against fraudulent Companies under PLMA act, Black money act etc

c) International Cooperation

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6. If a larger population in India is to be involved in the economy in a big way, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are key. Elaborate. Also discuss the challenges faced by the SME sector in India and give an account of the measures taken by the government to deal with these.

यदि भारत में एक बड़ी आबादी को अर्थव्यवस्था में बड़े पैमाने पर सम्मिलित करना है, तो लघु और मध्यम उद्यम (SMEs) महत्वपूर्ण हैं। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। इसके साथ ही, भारत में SME क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जाने वाली चुनौतियों पर भी चर्चा कीजिए और इनसे निपटने के लिए सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों का विवरण भी प्रदान कीजिए।

Small and Medium Enterprises form a major proportion of contribution to GDP, employment etc. Therefore they engage a large population in the economy in a big way.

a) SME's contribute to various sectors like manufacturing, services, food processing and agriculture, tourism etc. Also they provide employment in Tier II and Tier III cities where they form majority of enterprises.

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Challenges faced by SME sector

a) Stagnant or declining productivity

b) Incentives to stay small means that SME's are unable to transform into big companies

c) Increased competition ∵ of relaxed FDI norms, globalisation e.g Chinese products flooding Indian market

d) Access to credit ∵ of NPA problem of banks

e) Adaptability to reforms like demonetization, GST has been poor.

f) Complex laws : e.g labour laws, informal labour.

g) Other factors like declining global demand, Poor supporting infrastructure like erratic power supply, roads etc.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Steps taken by the ~~gover~~ government

a) MUDRA yojana

b) Start up India / Stand up India Scheme

c) Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Protsahan Yojana

d) Skill India

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

7. What are the reasons for the growing informalization of industrial labour in India? Discuss the issues associated with the phenomenon and reforms required to deal with them.

भारत में औद्योगिक श्रम के बढ़ते अनौपचारीकरण के क्या कारण हैं? इस परिघटना से जुड़े मुद्दों और उनसे निपटने हेतु आवश्यक सुधारों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Informal labour is characterised by ease of entry, low skill, low wages, and mainly comprise of immigrant labour. They have little chance of promotion, no fringe benefits, harsh work environment and long working hours. Over 90% employment in India is in unorganized sector

Reasons : a) Globalisation :
Growth of wage labour, subcontractorship etc.

b) Decreasing power of trade unions

c) Agricultural distress pushing rural labour to industrial areas as informal labour

d) Poverty, illiteracy, unemployment also leading to growth of informal

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

industrial labour.

c) Low skill and adaptability to technology combined with greater mechanisation

f) Low bargaining power of labour

g) Complex laws forcing industries to remain unorganized

Issues associated with this phenomenon:

a) Poor working conditions: low wages, long working hours, exploitation

b) Low productivity of industries

c) Companies evade paying taxes by remaining in the unorganized sector.

d) Livelihood guarantee has to be provided by state.

e) No social security, vicious cycle of poverty

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Steps needed: a) Incentives to Companies to shift from being informal to formal sector

b) Simplify laws, processes etc for easy Compliance

c) Minimum wages act passed by the Centre: Wage Code Bill 2017

d) Skilling of labour force. Skill India, DDU-Grameen Kaushal Yojana, DDU-Kaushal Vikas Yojana.

e) Social Security for labour: e.g insurance, pension products

f) Self employment: MUDRA, Startup India / Stand up India

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8. A number of far-reaching developments have taken place in the local and global energy space which have to be reflected in our own energy policy framework. Discuss.

स्थानीय और वैश्विक ऊर्जा क्षेत्र में कई दूरगामी घटनाएं घटित हुई हैं, जिन्हें हमारी अपनी ऊर्जा नीति के ढांचे में प्रतिबिंबित होना है। चर्चा कीजिए।

India needs to maintain a balance between its development needs and its commitment towards climate change via the Paris Deal. It needs to reflect the following local and global developments in the energy space in its energy policy.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS :

a) Ambitious target of 175 GW of renewable energy : 100 GW (Solar), 60 GW (wind), 10 GW (Biomass), 5 GW (Small hydro).

b) Balancing its requirement for development, growth, providing

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

electricity access to millions.

c) Fulfilling targets under electrification schemes like village electrification, Saubhagya scheme to provide electricity connections to households.

d) Improving energy efficiency (c) Reforming DISCOMS

GLOBAL Developments

a) Ambitious Intentional National Development Contributions (INDC) to the Paris Climate Deal

b) Leadership of the International Solar Alliance

c) Negotiating its interests in the Paris Deal taking into account various provisions like transparency, global stocktake, finance and technology transfer

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

d) International Cooperation with countries having similar interests.

Therefore, our energy policy needs to assess current and future demand, capacity etc while improving productivity, efficiency, financing options etc.

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9. The Indian IT-BPM (Information Technology-Business Process Management) industry is a global powerhouse today and its impact on India and the world has been unprecedented. Comment. Also, mention the challenges being faced by India's IT-BPM sector.

भारतीय IT-BPM (Information Technology-Business Process Management या सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी-व्यापार प्रक्रिया प्रबंधन) उद्योग आज एक वैश्विक शक्ति का केंद्र है और भारत एवं विश्व पर इसका प्रभाव अभूतपूर्व रहा है। टिप्पणी कीजिए। साथ ही, भारत के IT-BPM क्षेत्रक द्वारा सामना की जा रही चुनौतियों का भी उल्लेख कीजिए।

Post LPG reforms, the Indian IT-BPM industry took off the services industry, making India a global ~~gou~~ powerhouse today.

Impact on India

a) Companies like Infosys, TCS grew manifold.

b) Boom for engineering colleges and India became a Technological powerhouse

c) Foreign exchange ~~earn~~ earnings.

d) Contribution to GDP

e) Improving India's image at the international level.

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

B) India produced leaders in the technology domain

g) International migration and Brain drain

Impact on world

a) Boost to Globalisation

b) Cheap Indian labour improved ~~cost~~ competitiveness of foreign companies

c) International migration

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

Challenges : a) Increasing protectionism : US Visa policy targetting Indian Companies

b) Issues faced by immigrants : security, culture, acceptance etc

c) Quality, skills, employability of engineers decreasing due to unregulated growth of engineering colleges

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

10. An effective multi-modal logistics and transport sector will make the Indian economy more competitive. Analyse.

एक प्रभावी मल्टी-मॉडल लॉजिस्टिक्स (बहु-रूपात्मक संभरण) और परिवहन क्षेत्रक भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था को और अधिक प्रतिस्पर्धी बनाएगा। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Physical infrastructure like effective multi.modal logistics and transport sector forms the basis for the economy.

A multimodal logistics and transport sector ensures efficient utilization of means of transport, first mile and last mile connectivity etc.

It has the potential to make the economy more competitive in the following ways

a) AGRICULTURE : Better transport ensures reduced costs, reduce post harvest losses, remove demand supply ~~of~~ gap etc

b) Reduce cost of transport,

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

c) Reduce delays

d) Reduce dependence on only one mode of transport

e) Efficient utilization of resources

f) Environment friendly : Railways, Inland waterways etc are more environment friendly than roads

g) Boost to exports via port connectivity

h) Generate employment by forward and backward linkages in various sectors like ~~emplo~~ agriculture.

i) Improve competitiveness of goods and services by reducing costs.

j) Ease of doing business will attract more FDI, thereby boosting

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

the economy.

b) Important for schemes like Make in India, Sagar-mala etc

In order to ensure the above, the following is required

a) Recover stalled projects

b) Public private partnership

c) Resolve NPA crisis

d) Coordination and cooperation among ministries, departments etc

e) Sector specific regulators

f) First mile and last mile connectivity

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11. Climate change threatens sustainable development, impairs socio-economic development and reinforces cycles of poverty across the globe. In this context, discuss the utility of climate risk insurance as an instrument within a comprehensive climate risk management system.

जलवायु परिवर्तन पूरे विश्व में संधारणीय विकास को जोखिम में डालता है, सामाजिक-आर्थिक विकास को क्षीण करता है और गरीबी के चक्र को मजबूत बनाता है। इस संदर्भ में, व्यापक जलवायु जोखिम प्रबंधन प्रणाली के अंतर्गत एक साधन के रूप में जलवायु जोखिम बीमा की उपयोगिता पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Climate change poses a threat to agriculture, food security, coastal areas via sea level rise, increased frequency of extreme weather events etc. It threatens sustainable development and socio economic development. The poor and vulnerable are the most susceptible to climate change as they lack the resources to mitigate and adapt to it.

In this context, Climate risk insurance could provide insurance ~~due to~~ to people / companies / States to recover from the damages caused

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by climate change.

Utility: a) Incentive to produce climate friendly products as the cost of insurance will be built in the cost of product.

b) Social security to ~~the~~ the poor, and climate refugees

c) It can help adapt to climate change

Challenges: a) The effects of climate change are ~~not~~ complex and interlinked

b) Methodology to assess damages

c) Affordability of such insurance products.

Climate Risk insurance can be considered within a compre-hensive climate risk management system which includes:

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a) Vulnerability maps, assessing the threat levels

b) Mitigating the effects of Climate Change: e.g Afforestation, improving energy efficiency, Clean fuel, etc

c) Adapting to Climate Change: Climate Smart Agriculture, resilient cities ~~etc~~ and infrastructure.

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12. Why are women particularly vulnerable to the impact of natural disasters? Also analyse, with adequate examples, how women can play a more effective role in disaster risk management cycle.

प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के प्रभावों के प्रति महिलाएं विशेष रूप से सुभेद्य क्यों होती हैं? साथ ही, समुचित उदाहरणों के साथ विश्लेषण कीजिए कि किस प्रकार महिलाएं आपदा जोखिम प्रबंधन चक्र में अधिक प्रभावी भूमिका निभा सकती हैं।

Natural disasters cause immense loss to life and property. However, certain sections like women are more vulnerable ~~due~~ due to lack of resources and capacity to deal with natural disasters:

a) Dependence on men within the family

b) Exploitation (physical, sexual) in the aftermath of disaster

c) Lack of control of resources leading to low capacity to recover from disasters

d) Government benefits not available to women as they

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are mostly in the name of male member.

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13. In view of the seriousness of heat waves and its consequences, greater attention is required for dealing with it as a natural disaster. Analyse in the context of recent developments and the actions taken by relevant government bodies.

हीट वेव (ग्रीष्म लहर) और उसके परिणामों की गंभीरता के आलोक में, एक प्राकृतिक आपदा के रूप में इससे निपटने हेतु अधिक ध्यान दिए जाने की आवश्यकता है। हाल के घटनाक्रमों और संबद्ध सरकारी निकायों द्वारा उठाए गए कदमों के संदर्भ में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

According to Indian Meterology Department, a Heat wave is defined as a period where the temperature of a place is greater than 3°C ~~the~~ compared to average maximum daily temperature for 3 consecutive days.

Consequences of heat wave can range from dehydration, heat stroke, to death.

It also impacts animals and plants.

∴ It should be considered as a natural disaster and appropriate measures should be taken

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Heat waves are common in central parts of the country like Rajasthan, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh.

Actions taken:

a) Odisha has launched a plan to tackle heat waves

i) Early warning system: to inform of the situation

(ii) Public outreach: Informing public to reach places of safety through displays on traffic lights, media

(iii) Website and mobile app to show places of shelter and availability of water on highways

(iv) Change the timings of schools and offices

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5) NDMA has issued guidelines to declare and manage heatwaves.

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14. While genome editing offers immense potential benefits in the area of healthcare, there are a lot of apprehensions regarding its use. Discuss.

जहां, जीनोम एडिटिंग स्वास्थ्य सेवा के क्षेत्र में बहुत अधिक लाभ की संभावना प्रस्तुत करता है, वहीं इसके उपयोग के संबंध में काफी आशंकाएं भी मौजूद हैं। चर्चा कीजिए।

Genome editing is a type of genetic engineering in which DNA is inserted, deleted or replaced in the genome of a living organism using engineered nucleases or molecular scissors like CRISPR / CAS 9.

Benefits in area of Healthcare:

a) Disease diagnosis : Identifying particular disease causing genes

b) Treatment : Removing / Replacing infected genes to cure diseases like Parkinson's disease

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c) Drug delivery to specific places

d) Pharmacogenomics : which is the study of genome in drug response

e) Gene editing can also be use to prevent diseases like dengue, chikungunya by modifying genes of mosquitoes

f) Stem cell therapy

g) Construction of new organs

h) Inserting new genes in an organisms.

Apprehensions regarding its use

a) It may cause permanent changes which will be carried in future as well.

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b) Ethical issues : designer babies, modifying traits etc.

c) Unintentional damage to environment / species.

WAY FORWARD : Appropriate regulation from a scientific, social, environmental, economic and ethical perspective is needed for this technology.

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15. Discuss various ways in which supercomputers have benefitted mankind over the years. Also enumerate the objectives of the National Supercomputing Mission and the mechanism for its implementation.

उन विभिन्न तरीकों पर चर्चा कीजिए जिसके माध्यम से विगत वर्षों में सुपर कंप्यूटरों ने मानव जाति को लाभान्वित किया है। इसके साथ ही राष्ट्रीय सुपरकंप्यूटिंग मिशन के उद्देश्यों और इसके कार्यान्वयन के तंत्र को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

A Super computer is a computer with a high level of computing performance compared to a general purpose computer. The processing power of a super computer enables it to perform multiple tasks simultaneously or perform big tasks within a reasonable time.

Benefits of Super computer

a) Monsoon forcasting : using dynamic model by IMD.

b) ECONOMY : Performic simultaneous tasks, analyzing data,

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identifying patterns etc can help individuals, businesses, governments.

c) Governance

National Supercomputing Mission aims to build India's capability in supercomputers

Indian supercomputer to

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feature ~~in~~ in Top ~~5~~ Super Computer list

- expanding the reach by providing super computers in districts

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16. Widely seen as a disruption for the traditional banking and financial institutions, cryptocurrencies have gained significant traction lately, at the same time creating a regulatory nightmare for regulators across the globe. Discuss.

पारंपरिक बैंकिंग और वित्तीय संस्थानों के लिए व्यापक रूप से व्यवधान के रूप में देखी जाने वाली, साथ ही विश्व भर में नियामकों के लिए एक नियामकीय दुःस्वप्न का निर्माण करने वाली, *क्रिप्टोकरेंसी* ने हाल ही में महत्वपूर्ण पकड़ स्थापित की है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Cryptocurrencies are digital or virtual currency based on the principle of cryptography. Bitcoin has recently gained significant traction.

Cryptocurrency and its underlying technology (BLOCKCHAIN) is widely seen as a disruption for traditional banking and financial institutions :

a) Ease of entry / Low barriers to entry

b) Cost competitiveness : no clearing houses or middlemen involved

c) Based on open source methodology and public participation

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d) Blockchain can ensure the validity of all units of cryptocurrency at any time.

e) It can help in preventing counterfeiting, improving security.

f) It ~~can~~ has immunity from government and financial retribution.

At the same time, it is creating a regulatory nightmare for regulators across the globe

a) Cryptocurrencies are not regulated by any central authority. It faces regulatory uncertainty

b) Security of bitcoin wallets, prone to cyber attacks, DDoS attacks

c) Bitcoins used for tax evasion, money laundering, illegal activities.

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d) They are prone to price volatility
e) Lack of liquidity and acceptance.

WAY FORWARD : While bit coins need to be regulated and studied further ~~as~~. A Committee has been constituted by RBI for the same. Also Block chain technology can be adapted to various other uses to improve governance

Don't write anything this margin (इस भाग में कुछ ना लिखें)

17. An internationally-binding agreement to strengthen the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 is both desirable and increasingly a necessity. Analyse in view of the traditional and emerging challenges in this arena.

1967 की बाह्य अंतरिक्ष संधि को मजबूत बनाने हेतु एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाध्यकारी समझौता वांछनीय और साथ ही एक आवश्यकता दोनों है। इस क्षेत्र में पारंपरिक और उभरती हुई चुनौतियों के आलोक में विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Outer space Treaty, 1967 aims to promote international cooperation to promote peaceful use of outer space, prevent militarization of space, use of outerspace for benefit of mankind etc. However the treaty which was passed in 1967 suffers from certain limitations:

a) It is not internationally binding

b) It lacks enforcement powers or a security/Space police to punish violations

c) ~~It~~ In view of traditional and emerging challenges:

i) Greater private sector partici-

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pattern in outer space

(ii) exploiting the loopholes in the treaty by member countries

(iii) Increasing activity of in outer space for various activities like security, socio economic development

(iv) Increasing space debris

(v) Testing and deployment of weapons by member states. e.g Inter Continental Ballistic Missiles, Anti-Satellite weapons.

(vi) Emergence of outer space as a medium of warfare

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(vii) Increasing capabilities of countries to use satellites for various purposes like reconnaissance, invasion of privacy etc.

∴ In view of the above, an internationally binding agreement to strengthen the Outer Space Treaty 1967 is both desirable and a necessity. It should contain provisions to deal with challenges mentioned above.

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18. Even after nearly 60 years in existence, AFSPA remains at the centre of debates with respect to countering violent insurgencies, role of the states and local communities. Discuss.

अस्तित्व में आने के लगभग 60 वर्षों के बाद भी, हिंसक उग्रवाद का मुकाबला करने और राज्यों व स्थानीय समुदायों की भूमिका को लेकर AFSPA वाद-विवाद के केंद्र में बना हुआ है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Armed Forces special Powers Act gives special ~~pow forces~~ powers, privileges and immunity to the armed forces to restore peace in a disturbed area. Powers like search and seize any vehicle, arrest anyone without warrent, legal immunity, fire upon anyone after warning are given to the armed forces.

Arguments for AFSPA

a) Maintain peace in disturbed area, counter violent insurgencies

b) Repealing it would affect the morale of the forces

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Arguments against : a) Misuse of the powers : engaging in sexual exploitation, illegal shootouts

b) Local community feels alienated against the armed forces

c) Reduces trust in democracy, by impinging of fundamental rights

d) It has been ineffective even after 60 years.

Role of the States : The states are not consulted in some cases by the Centre before imposing AFSPA. It reduces the role of the state police and impinges on state subject of law and order. Also, it leads to poor coordination between local police and ~~Sta~~ armed forces leading to language issues, local intelligence

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defects etc.

The local communities feel alienated with act as they feel it is misused too often.

WAY FORWARD: The Supreme Court as well as various committees like JS Verma Committee have suggested humanizing AFSPA and making the armed forces accountable for their actions.

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19. Analyse the challenges and opportunities inherent in the push for indigenisation of defence production in India. Also, identify the measures through which indigenous manufacturing of defence equipments is being encouraged by the Government.

भारत में रक्षा उत्पादन के स्वदेशीकरण की दिशा में निहित चुनौतियों और अवसरों का विश्लेषण कीजिए। साथ ही, उन उपायों की भी पहचान कीजिए जिनके माध्यम से रक्षा उपकरणों का स्वदेशी निर्माण सरकार द्वारा प्रोत्साहित किया जा रहा है।

India is the largest arms importer in the world. This calls for a push for indigenisation of defence production in India

Challenges : a) Huge capital requirement

b) Technology and Skills lacking

c) Low participation of private sector.

d) Standards and quality of production

e) Time and cost over runs of projects

f) Delays due to land acquisition, environment clearances

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Opportunities : a) Boost for Make In India Program

b) Saving foreign currency, by reducing imports

c) Boost economy, GDP.

d) Employment generation

e) Technology capability will increase, benefits for other sectors as well.

f) Essential for national security by reducing dependence on other countries for defence equipment

Measures taken by government

a) International Cooperation : US : Major Defence Partner, Russia etc for joint production and technology transfer

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b) Defence Procurement policy: clauses like Indigenously design, developed, manufacture (IDDM) preferred, promoting indigenous production

c) Strategic Partnership Model finalized: Private players will collaborate with OEM's for particular sectors/equipment

d) Encouraging Startups, MSME's in the private sector.

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20. India's ability to puruse a clear-cut strategic vision depends on its ability to improve institutional cooperation and coordination between the armed forces and civilian bureaucracy. Discuss.

भारत द्वारा एक सुस्पष्ट रणनीतिक दृष्टि का अनुसरण करने की क्षमता वस्तुतः सशस्त्र बलों और सिविल नौकरशाही के बीच संस्थागत सहयोग और समन्वय में सुधार करने की क्षमता पर निर्भर करती है। चर्चा कीजिए।

Institutional Cooperation

a) Mechanisms to resolve differences and disputes at institutional level

b) Coordination among different agencies

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Coordination b/w armed forces and civilian bureaucracy

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INDEX TABLE

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1	12.5	
2	12.5	
3	12.5	
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6	12.5	
7	12.5	
8	12.5	
9	12.5	
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14	12.5	
15	12.5	
16	12.5	
17	12.5	
18	12.5	
19	12.5	
20	12.5	

Total Marks Obtained:

Remarks:

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।
2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI
   इसमें बीस प्रश्न हैं अंग्रजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।
3. All questions are compulsory.
   सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।
4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.
   प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।
5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other that the authorized one.
   प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।
6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.
   प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।
7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
   उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Alignment Competence
2. Context Competence
3. Content Competence
4. Language Competence
5. Introduction Competence
6. Structure - Presentation Competence
7. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

All the Best

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All the questions are compulsory and carry 12.5 marks each.

1. Enumerate the discretionary powers of the Governor mentioned in the Indian Constitution. Why is it said that the post of governor has become highly politicised?

भारतीय संविधान में निर्दिष्ट राज्यपाल की विवेकाधीन शक्तियों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए। ऐसा क्यों कहा जाता है कि राज्यपाल का पद अत्यधिक राजनीतिक बन गया है ?

The office of Governor is a Constitutional position. Governor is the head of the State. Though the position is ceremonial, like that of the President, but the ~~the~~ Governor enjoys some discretionary powers.

a) Article 163 states that there shall be a Council of ministers, headed by the Chief Minister to advice the Governor, except that when he is required to act in his own discretion. Also, the decision of the Governor, acting in his discretion, is final and not questionable.

b) With regard to assent of bills passed by the state legislature,

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the Governor can reserve the bill for the assent of the President

c) The Governor appoints the Chief Minister, based on the party with single largest majority. He acts in his discretion, in cases of hung assembly or when no confidence motion is passed against the assembly

d) Governor possesses veto power with respect to bills given to him for his assent.

As the Governor is appointed by the President, based on the advice of the Union government, he acts as an agent of the Centre. It is said that post of the Governor has become highly politicized :

a) Misuse and over use of Article 356 related to President's Rule

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b) Interference of Governor in states when Centre and State have different political parties in power

c) Governor acting in a partisan manner to pursue interests of Central government, as in the recent cases of Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh etc

d) Political appointees to the post.

Governor needs to act as a coordination mechanism between Centre and States. His primary duty is to uphold, protect and defend the Constitution. The recommendations of Punchhi Commission related to ~~post~~ appointment of Governor should be implemented in letter and spirit.

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2. CAG is instrumental in securing accountability of the executive to the Parliament in the sphere of financial administration. Elaborate. Enumerate the provisions made in the Constitution to ensure the independence of the CAG.

CAG वित्तीय प्रशासन के क्षेत्र में संसद के प्रति कार्यपालिका की जवाबदेही तय करने में सहायक है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए। CAG की स्वतंत्रता सुनिश्चित करने हेतु संविधान में किए गए प्रावधानों को सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

CAG - Comptroller and Accountant general - is a Constitutional body which is instrumental in securing financial accountability of the executive to the Parliament.

It achieves it through the following instruments:

a) Performance Audit

b) Discretionary Audit

c) Audit of Consolidated Fund, Contingency fund, Public Account

d) Check the wisdom, faithfulness, and economy of the expenditure.

e) Act as guide, friend and philosopher of Public Accounts Committee

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f) Financial audit

g) Compliance audit

Provisions to ensure independence

a) Security of tenure : 65 yrs or 6 years whichever is earlier

b) expenses charged on Consolidated Fund of India

c) Conditions of employment cannot be changed to the disadvantage

d) Appointed by the President

e) Removal not at the discretion of executive

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3. What are the different institutional arrangements in India to promote cooperation between the Centre and States? Critically analyse the role of Inter-State Council to enhance cooperative federalism in India.

केंद्र और राज्यों के मध्य सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारत में विभिन्न संस्थागत व्यवस्थाएं क्या हैं? भारत में सहकारी संघवाद को बढ़ावा देने में अंतरराज्यीय परिषद की भूमिका का आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

India is a Union of States. The quasi federal structure adopted by India requires effective Cooperation between the Centre and States. The various institutional arrangements for the same are:

a) Article 263 - Inter-State Council can be established by the President to promote coordination among states and between Centre and States

b) Article - 280 : Finance Commission, for horizontal and vertical devolution of finances ~~between~~ among States and between Centre and States.

c) The office of Governor, appointed by the ~~Cent~~ President and is Head of State.

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d) Article 262 : through which Parliament has enacted Inter-State Water Disputes Act and River Boards Act

e) Grants from Centre to States, in form of Statutory and Discretionary Grants

f) Zonal Councils, established through the States Reorganization Act, 1956.

g) Following the principle of Cooperative and Competitive federalism

Role of Inter State Council in promoting Cooperative Federalism

POSITIVE ROLE : a) It is a Constitutional body, which can act as a medium of cooperation

b) Resolve differences among states e.g water disputes

c) A tool of competitive federalism

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where states can learn and adapt best practices

CHALLENGES : a) It does not meet frequently.

b) It does not have a professional secretariat or experts

WAY FORWARD : To act as tool to promote cooperation among States and between Centre and States, Inter State Council needs :

a) Meet at least thrice a year

b) Engage experts and professionals in law, management, political science

c) Have a professional secretariat

d) Have powers to mediate in disputes between States.

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4. In view of the idea of holding simultaneous elections to the Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies, discuss the advantages that its implementation would lead to and the concerns that it raises.

लोकसभा और राज्य विधानसभाओं का चुनाव साथ-साथ कराने के विचार के आलोक में, इसके कार्यान्वयन से होने वाले लाभों और इससे उत्पन्न होने वाली चिंताओं पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Election to the Parliament, the State legislature assembly, Panchayats and local body means that frequency of elections is high. In light of this, simultaneous elections have been proposed to the Lok Sabha and State Legislature Assemblies:

Advantages / NEED

a) GOVERNANCE : i) Administrative staff diverted for election duty frequently, which affects daily governance.

(ii) Model Code of Conduct means that new policies and welfare programs get delayed

(iii) Political parties and governments will focus on performance and governance for

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4 years of simultaneous elections take place

b) ECONOMIC : i) Spending on frequent elections will be averted.

(ii) Economic ~~growth~~ progress due to focus on performance, accountability etc

c) Legislative : i) Due to frequent elections and model code of conduct, legislative functions get delayed.

ii) Legislators belonging to political parties get busy in campaigning for different elections

CONCERNS : a) National and regional issues may get mixed up in the mind of electorate.

b) Frequent elections ensure that legislators remain accountable to the electorate.

c) Huge amount of economic and administrative resources required

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for simultaneous elections.

d) Coordinating the different schedule of elections of Lok Sabha and ~~diff~~ legislative assemblies of various states.

e) Uncertainities when legislative assembly is dissolved before completion of its term. It would require ~~re~~ elections for all.

WAY FORWARD : Due to the drastic nature of such a change, developing political will and feasibility of simultaneous elections is a concern. Instead, ~~political~~ and electoral reforms like de criminalization of politics, curbing election spending, intra-party democracy, audit of political parties should be the way forward.

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5. While the Competition Commission of India and sector-specific regulators are required to complement each other, overlapping jurisdiction has resulted in regulatory parallelism amongst them. Comment.

जहां भारतीय प्रतिस्पर्धा आयोग और क्षेत्र-विशिष्ट नियामकों को एक-दूसरे का पूरक बनने की आवश्यकता है, वहीं परस्पर अतिव्यापी अधिकार क्षेत्र का परिणाम उनके बीच नियामकीय समानांतरता के रूप में सामने आया है। टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Competition Commission of India is a statutory body to ensure fair competition, protect the interests of consumers, ensure that absolute monopoly or unfair practices are not being used.

Sector specific regulators like TRAI, SEBI, RBI are used to regulate various sectors like Telecom, markets, banks respectively.

Conflict between the two

a) Overlapping jurisdiction:
CCI is overall regulator, conflicts with sector specific regulator

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b) CCI V/s RBI : ~~Merger~~ Merger of banks

c) CCI V/s TRAI : telecom policies by TRAI

Cooperation and Complentary functions can ensure better regulation of markets.

a) Professionals from various sector regulators should work with CCI

b) Awareness about rules, standard operating Procedures etc.

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6. Criticism about the judiciary should be welcomed, so long as criticisms do not hamper the "administration of justice". In this context discuss whether the power of contempt of court given to the higher judiciary limits the freedom granted by Article 19(1)(a) and whether these two can be reconciled.

जब तक आलोचनाएं "न्याय के प्रशासन" में बाधा न डालें, न्यायपालिका के संबंध में आलोचनाओं का स्वागत किया जाना चाहिए। इस संदर्भ में चर्चा कीजिए कि क्या उच्चतर न्यायपालिका को दी गई न्यायालय की अवमानना की शक्ति अनुच्छेद 19 (1) (a) द्वारा प्रदत्त स्वतंत्रता को सीमित करती है और क्या इन दोनों में सामंजस्य हो सकता है।

Contempt of Court is a power given to the judiciary to punish those who violate the authority of the Court. It can be civil or criminal contempt of Court

a) CIVIL : when order of Court is wilfully disobeyed

b) Criminal Contempt : impugning on the dignity of the Court, obstruction in judicial proceedings or administration of justice etc.

Judiciary, as an organ of the government, is the guardian of the Constitution and protector of Fundamental Rights. Thus

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protecting its dignity and authority is essential.

Contempt power limits freedom?

a) It restricts freedom of speech and expression
b) It is undemocratic in nature
c) Misuse of the contempt power for justified criticism, which does not necessarily hamper administration of justice.
d) It erodes the trust between the public and the judiciary.
e) It shows the lack of transparency and the difference in ideals and reality of the judiciary

Contempt power is justified?

a) Freedom of speech and expression is not absolute and subject to reasonable restrictions
b) It is needed to maintain authority and dignity of court.

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c) It is needed for effective enforcement of the Court's orders.

In order to protect the authority of the Courts and ensure rights of speech and expression, the judiciary should use its power of contempt wisely. It should accept justified criticism, while improving its transparency in issues like performance, appointments. Improve in performance of the Courts which ensure justice and protect the rights, while punishing those who actually hamper administration of justice can reconcile the differences between the two.

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7. Despite being a welcome step, Inter-State Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2017 fails to resolve the issue of overlapping of jurisdiction between the legislature and judiciary. Analyse.

स्वागत योग्य कदम होने के बावजूद, अंतरराज्यीय जल विवाद (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2017 विधायिका और न्यायपालिका के बीच क्षेत्राधिकार के परस्पर अतिव्यापन का मुद्दा सुलझाने में विफल रहा है। विश्लेषण कीजिए।

In its powers given by Article 262, Parliament enacted Inter State Water Disputes (Amendment) Act, 2017 for resolution of disputes ~~relation~~ relating to sharing of waters of inter-state rivers. It is a welcome step because of the following

a) Permanent Tribunal ~~fo~~ with different benches, alleviates the need for a separate tribunal each time a dispute occured

b) Dispute Resolution Committees for resolving the differences between states

c) Appointment and Service Rules for members of tribunal

d) Fixed timelines for timely resolution of disputes by the Tribunal (4½ years)

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e) Data bank for maintaining the data related to the river and valley ~~valleys~~ basin at the national level.

However, the effectiveness of legislation to resolve the issue of overlapping of jurisdiction between legislature and judiciary is doubtful.

a) Executive and legislature will decide the membership criteria, appointment of tribunals, which is against separation of power and independence of judiciary

b) The award to the tribunals is challenged by the States in the Supreme Court

c) No mechanism for enforcement of the award.

d) excessive tribunalisation by creating tribunals for various disputes,

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which implies entry of legislature into the domain of judiciary.

To make resolution of water disputes effective, following needs to be done

a) Depoliticization of river disputes
b) Supply side management of water: e.g irrigation, rational use.
c) River Boards for management of river waters and enforcement of award of tribunal.
d) Inter State Council could act as a medium to resolve disputes and monitor implementation.

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8. Critically discuss the major reforms introduced in the area of electoral funding in Union Budget 2017. Do you think that state funding of elections is a viable idea to check misuse of money power in politics?

2017 के केंद्रीय बजट में चुनावी वित्तपोषण को लेकर प्रस्तुत किए गए प्रमुख सुधारों पर आलोचनात्मक चर्चा कीजिए। क्या आप मानते हैं कि राजनीति में धनबल का दुरुपयोग रोकने के लिए चुनावों का राज्य द्वारा वित्त पोषण एक व्यावहारिक विचार है?

According to data by Association of Democratic Reforms, around 70% funding of political parties between 2004/05 - 2014/15 came from anonymous sources. Excessive use of money in elections erodes the free and fair nature of elections and promotes black money and corruption.

To curb such effects, reforms were introduced in area of electoral funding in Union Budget 2017

a) ~~Manor~~ Maximum of 2000/- cash can be donated by an individual

b) Electoral Bonds : It can be purchased from bank, by cheque/online, and donated to political party in

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a given bank account. The bonds are anonymous.

c) Political parties need to file annual financial statements.

d) Political parties can receive donations online or cheque etc., discouraging cash usage

e) The 7.5% limit on donations by Corporates has been done away with. Also companies don't need to mention name of party in their accounts

CRITICISM : a) Such measures will not be effective

b) More anonymous sources and more data will need to be maintained to bypass such reforms. e.g multiple donations less than 2000 in cash.

c) Encourages anonymity.

State funding of elections is suggested by various committees to check misuse of money power

Advantages : a) Limits to spending

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b) Check corruption and crony capitalism

c) Ensure free and fair elections

Challenges : a) Public will ~~support~~ finance those candidates also, who they don't support and ~~f~~ vote for.

b) It will erode the link between party and citizens.

WAY FORWARD : a) Strict implementation of the various laws

b) Audit of accounts of political parties

c) Banning cash donations and anonymous donation completely.

Such step can be a step forward to ensure clean elections

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9. Discuss the significance of the concept of Office of Profit as enshrined in the Indian Constitution. Why has it been embroiled in controversies for a long time? Analyse the role played by judiciary in this regard.

भारतीय संविधान में यथा प्रतिष्ठापित लाभ के पद की अवधारणा के महत्व पर चर्चा कीजिए। लंबे समय तक यह विवादों में क्यों उलझा रहा? इस संबंध में न्यायपालिका द्वारा निभायी गई भूमिका का विश्लेषण कीजिए।

Definition of Office of Profit is not mentioned in the Constitution. However, various judgements, conventions, EC define it as following

a) whether government makes the appointment
b) whether government holds the right to dismiss the appointee
c) who pays remuneration
d) what are the functions.

According to Representation of People Act, a legislator will be disqualified if he holds an office of profit outside his duties as a legislator.

Controversies regarding Office of Profit

a) Against separation of power:

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executive or the government which enjoys majority in the legislature, creates posts like Parliamentary secretaries for the legislatures to get their support. This is against separation of power and negates the ~~resp~~ accountability of the executive to the legislature

b) It is used to bypass the 15% limit on the ~~Co~~ strength of Council of Ministers.

Arguments for posts like Parliamentary secretaries that they should not be considered as Office of Profit

a) They are not appointed by the President, as ministers are.

b) They do not sign the oath of secrecy

c) Exemptions from disqualification of such posts from office of Profit clause have been made in the past.

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The role of the judiciary in deciding disqualification for the same should be:

a) Posts in an advisory role should not be considered office of profit

b) Post which involve executive decision making and allocation of resources should be considered office of profit

c) Posts which are required for effective coordination between different departments should not be considered office of profit.

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10. The provisions of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution devolve some essential powers to the lower levels in order to cater to the needs of the tribal community. Discuss, while examining the modern day challenges faced by the institutions set up under the Sixth Schedule.

संविधान की छठी अनुसूची के प्रावधान, जनजातीय समुदाय की आवश्यकताओं को पूर्ण करने के लिए निचले स्तर को कुछ आवश्यक शक्तियां हस्तांतरित करती हैं। छठी अनुसूची के अंतर्गत स्थापित संस्थाओं के समक्ष वर्तमान चुनौतियों का परीक्षण करते हुए चर्चा कीजिए।

Sixth schedule of the Constitution is related to the scheduled and tribal areas of Assam, Meghalya, Tripura and Mizoram.

Some provisions are:

a) Autonomous district Councils and regional councils, for administration of tribal areas.

b) The laws of Parliament or State legislature do not apply to such areas or apply with some exceptions

c) Legislative powers to Councils to make laws on issues like land, inheritance, marriage, divorce

d) Judicial powers to resolve cases among Tribals.

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c) The regional councils can establish and regulate schools, dispensary, local markets, money lending activities in such areas

Thus, the 6th schedule caters to the special needs of tribals, ensuring autonomy to such areas while safeguarding their local laws, customs and culture. The wide ranging powers have made the implementation of 6th schedule considerably successful compared to the 5th schedule

Challenges :

a) Discretion of the governor in creation ~~of~~ and establishment of Autonomous district councils, application of outside laws etc

b) The powers of the councils are

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subject to approval from the governor.

c) Unwillingness of the State to effectively devolve powers, funds ~~of th~~ to such councils.

d) Poor implementation of various acts for welfare of tribals e.g PESA, Forest Rights Act etc.

e) Insurgency activities by non state actors in such areas, which hinders development.

WAY FORWARD : Development of tribal areas needs to be looked by a hollistic perspective. Effective implementation of 6th schedule, while complemented with other measures like PESA, FRA can ensure inclusive development.

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11. Special rights are not privileges but they are granted to make it possible for minorities to preserve their identity, culture and traditions. Elaborate in the context of India with examples.

विशिष्ट अधिकार विशेषाधिकार नहीं हैं, बल्कि अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए अपनी पहचान, संस्कृति और परंपराओं का संरक्षण करना संभव बनाने के लिए इन्हें प्रदान किया गया है। उदाहरण सहित भारत के संदर्भ में सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Unity in diversity is a unique feature of India. This is possible only because every minority whether on basis of language, religion, culture etc is ensured special rights to preserve their identity, culture and traditions.

Some of the special rights are

a) Article 25-28: Freedom of religion ensures an individual or community to propagate, practice, profess their religion

b) Article 29, 30: Every group or minority has the right to preserve, protect their culture, establish institution and administer the same.

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c) Secularism is a basic feature of the Constitution

d) National Commission for minorities has been established to protect the interests of minorities.

e) Special provisions to States like Nagaland, Mizoram etc under Article 371 to protect their customary law and traditions.

f) Prohibition of discrimination on the basis of religion, language, caste ~~etc~~ under Article 15.

g) Duty of the State to provide instruction in mother tongue to children

h) 22 Official languages enshrined in the 8th schedule.

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Such special rights are not privileges, but are needed in order to protect the plural character of the country.

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12. While it has been argued that the judiciary should be brought under RTI, a balance also needs to be maintained between independence of the judiciary and the right of people to know. In this context, discuss the pros and cons of bringing the judiciary under the ambit of RTI.

एक ओर यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि न्यायपालिका को RTI के अंतर्गत लाया जाना चाहिए, वहीं न्यायपालिका की स्वतंत्रता और लोगों के सूचना के अधिकार के मध्य संतुलन बनाए रखना भी आवश्यक है। इस संदर्भ में, न्यायपालिका को RTI के दायरे में लाने के पक्ष और विपक्ष पर चर्चा कीजिए।

RTI or Right to Information has been regarded as the master key to good governance by the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission. It enables citizens to seek information from public authorities and government departments regarding their functioning, resource allocation etc. It increases transparency, accountability, deters corruption and leads to improvement in governance.

The judiciary while following the ideals of transparency, has ordered government to implement RTI

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but is itself against ~~Comb~~ coming under its ambit.
Many high courts have not appointed Public Information Officers, high fee to seek information (500/-) compared to normal fee of 10/-, binding decision of Registrar General of the Court are some examples that highlight unwillingness of the judiciary to come under RTI

PROS of judiciary under RTI

a) Increases transparency and accountability
b) Increases public trust in the judicial system
c) The judiciary should lead by example
d) It is in favour of democratic principles. People have a right to know.
e) Sufficient safeguards available under the act to ensure independence of the judiciary.

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CONS: a) Independence of the judiciary may be threatened

b) Judicial discussions concern with highly confidential meetings and data relating to various organs of government. Bringing under RTI may not be in interest of national security

c) Already burdened judiciary.

d) Dignity and respect of judges, which is essential may be impacted

WAY FORWARD: Bringing judiciary under RTI does not threaten the balance b/w independence of judiciary and right to people to know. Adequate safeguards are available under RTI act to ensure the same. Hence judiciary should be brought under RTI

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13. Differentiate between pressure groups and political parties. It is often said that pressure groups are primarily a consequence of inadequacies of the political parties in India. Discuss the above statement in the context of rising environmental protection groups.

दबाव समूहों और राजनीतिक दलों के मध्य अंतर कीजिए। प्राय: यह कहा जाता है कि दबाव समूह मुख्य रूप से भारत में राजनीतिक दलों की अयोग्यता का परिणाम हैं। बढ़ते पर्यावरण संरक्षण समूहों के संदर्भ में उपर्युक्त कथन पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Pressure Groups are an organized group of people with similar interests, who put pressure on the government, in pursuance of such interest.

Political parties also represent a group of people, who run for elections to form government.

The main difference b/w the two is that while ~~to~~ Pressure group do not aim to capture power, political parties aim for power. Both are a part of civil society in democracy and use different means to achieve their goals. Pressure groups remain outside the government, while

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political parties aim to become part of the government.

Rise of Pressure Groups

Pressure groups can be protective or promotional, depending on the range of interests that they try to protect. They can be associational, non associational, institutional and anomic.

The rise of ~~political~~ pressure groups can partly be attributed to inadequacies of political parties in India.

a) Environment ~~movements~~ protection groups care for the wider range of interests like tribals, environment, climate change, exploitation of resources, which are neglected by political parties.

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b) Political parties favour big corporations for support and donations, while most environment ~~movements~~ protection groups are against them. e.g mining corporations, big dams (Sardar Sarovar dam).

c) Environment protection groups voice the concerns and interests of the voiceless, which are often neglected by political parties who use them merely as vote banks.

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14. Give an account of the factors responsible for the limited success of Lok Adalats. What measures are required to ensure that Lok Adalats function as an effective dispute redressal mechanism?

लोक अदालतों की सीमित सफलता के लिए उत्तरदायी कारकों का विवरण प्रदान कीजिए। लोक अदालतों द्वारा प्रभावी विवाद निवारण तंत्र के रूप में कार्य करने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जाने आवश्यक हैं?

Lok Adalats are a form of alternate dispute redressal mechanism, which was given statutory status by Legal Services Authority Act. They enable speedier resolution in a cost effective way, reduce burden on courts and help maintain amicable relationship between opposing parties.

However success of Lok Adalats has been limited:

a) Limited awareness of its use as a means of dispute resolution

b) Its decision is final and binding. No appeals are allowed against its decisions, which acts as an

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impediment for its use.

c) Already over burdened judges not available to reside over Lok Adalats

d) Lok Adalats not constituted frequently.

e) Biased arbitrators, leading to dissatisfactory resolution.

Measures needed:

a) Awareness generation for Lok Adalats at National, State, local (Panchayat level)

b) Lok Adalats should be frequently constituted by National Legal Services authority, State Legal Services authority and also at the Taluk level.

c) Fairness and transparency in proceedings.

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Given the huge backlog of cases, Lok Adalats need to be promoted along with other reforms in lower judiciary.

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15. The provision of 33% reservation of seats for women in urban local body elections in Nagaland has been in news for various reasons in recent times. Discuss the underlying issues in light of the constitutional provisions at stake and the social realities of the state.

हाल ही में नागालैंड में शहरी स्थानीय निकाय के चुनावों में महिलाओं के लिए 33% सीटों के आरक्षण का प्रावधान विभिन्न कारणों से सुर्ख़ियों में रहा है। इस सन्दर्भ में राज्य की सामाजिक वास्तविकताओं तथा दाँव पर लगे संवैधानिक प्रावधानों के आलोक में अंतर्निहित मुद्दों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The provision of Article 243T which allows for 33% reservation of seats for women in urban local body elections has been opposed in Nagaland on the premise that it goes against Article 371A which states that all laws should be consistent with Naga Customary law and tradition.

The Nagas consider it a violation of their customary law.

Arguments given by Nagas

a) Article 243T is against Article 371A and is unconstitutional

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b) They are against elections of women, but not against appointments. They are willing to nominate women in ULB.

Arguments against Naga

a) Denying women to fight elections is against the constitutional provisions, also against Article 14, 15

b) Women already fight elections for village development boards, so opposing for ULB does not make sense

The issue also reflects the social realities in the state:

a) Highlights the discrimination against women

b) Despite high literacy, women are still not represented adequately. (only 1 woman parliamentarian so far)

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c) Ideology of patriarchy prevalent, denying rights and dignity of women.

WAY FORWARD : a) Provision of Article 243T should be implemented.

b) Customary laws should be made gender neutral.

c) Naga civil society should be involved in generating awareness of the issue.

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16. Government advertisements have often been viewed as misuse of taxpayer's money for enhancing the image of political parties. Discuss in the light of relevant SC rulings. Also enumerate the recommendations made by the Twentieth Law Commission to address the issue of paid news and political advertisements.

सरकारी विज्ञापनों को प्राय: राजनीतिक दलों की छवि सुधारने के लिए करदाताओं के धन के दुरुपयोग के रूप में देखा जाता है। सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के प्रासंगिक निर्णयों के आलोक में चर्चा कीजिए। पेड न्यूज और राजनीतिक विज्ञापनों के मुद्दे से निपटने के लिए 20वें विधि आयोग द्वारा की गई अनुशंसाओं को भी सूचीबद्ध कीजिए।

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17. A clear delineation of functions of local governments vis-à-vis State Governments will only strengthen the principle of subsidiarity. In this context, discuss the challenges and the reforms required for effective democratic decentralization in India.

राज्य सरकारों के साथ-साथ स्थानीय सरकारों के कार्यों के स्पष्ट आरेखण (निरूपण) से केवल अनुषंगिकता का सिद्धांत पुष्ट होगा। इस संदर्भ में, भारत में प्रभावी लोकतांत्रिक विकेंद्रीकरण के लिए आवश्यक सुधारों और चुनौतियों पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments provided for constitutional status for third tier of government at the local level in the form of Panchayat and Municipalities. It contained some mandatory provisions and some discretionary provisions, with the power to state government to regulate the same. ~~Through~~

Though areas of functions of Panchayats and ULB's have been mentioned in 11th and 12th Schedules, yet the functions have not been effectively devolved by the States to the local level.

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Challenges for effective decentralisation

a) Lack of political will of State to empower local bodies and let go of power.

b) Lack of 3F's - funds, functions, functionaries to the local bodies

c) Lack of effective capacity and capability of local bodies and unavailability of skilled workforce

d) Lack of transparency and accountability.

e) Ineffective Coordination among various departments

f) Lack of Community engagement and top down approach.

Reforms needed: a) Devolve more powers, funds, functions to local bodies

b) Regular meetings of Gram Sabha, Community involvement by creating

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awareness, more transparency etc

c) Financial ~~indepe~~ self sufficiency. e.g municipal bonds, credit rating of municipal corporation

d) Professionalisation of local bodies

e) Institutionalisation of functions of local bodies.

f) Training, capacity building etc of ULB's and Panchayats.

Following a bottom up approach ~~while~~ will strengthen the principle of subsidiarity and lead to good governance.

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18. Vast powers have been vested in the office of the Speaker to strengthen the democratic institutions of the parliamentary system, and not to stifle dissent or protest in the House. Comment in the context of India.

लोकसभा अध्यक्ष के पद में निहित व्यापक शक्तियां वस्तुतः संसदीय प्रणाली के लोकतांत्रिक संस्थानों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए प्रदान की गयी है, न कि सदन में मतभेद या विरोध को दबाने के लिए। भारत के संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिए।

The office of Speaker is a highly dignified office which enjoys Constitutional status and high rank in the order of preference.

Powers of speaker

a) Speaker is the Head of Lok Sabha

b) Speaker appoints the members of various Committees, Also presides over General Purpose Committee, Rules Committee, Business Advisory Committee

c) It (office of Speaker) certifies a bill as money bill

d) It resides over joint sitting of Parliament.

e) It has a casting vote in case of tie

f) Regulates the proceedings of the House

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g) Can conduct secret sitting of the House.

h) Its decisions regarding various rules, procedures, Constitutional provisions within the House are final.

i) It decides on disqualification of members on basis of Defection

Thus, office of Speaker has wide powers to strengthen the democratic institutions of Parliamentary System.

However, the powers of Speaker have also been used to stifle dissent or protest in the House

a) ~~Disqualifying~~ Suspending members for criticism of government policies for unruly behaviour

b) Partisan behaviour while deciding certification of money bills, or disqualification on basis of defection.

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c) Stifling criticism of government or own criticism.

WAY FORWARD: Speaker can resign from the political party to remain neutral. He/She can join it later. Also powers like that of defection can be vested in a committee instead of single individual. Thus Speaker should ensure effective functioning of the Parliament and non engage in political affiliations or partisan behaviour.

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19. Tenth Schedule of the Constitution and the subsequent amendments have failed at solving the problem of defections and opportunistic politics. Critically analyse.

संविधान की दसवीं अनुसूची तथा उत्तरवर्ती संशोधन दल-बदल और अवसरवादी राजनीति की समस्या का समाधान करने में विफल रहे हैं। आलोचनात्मक विश्लेषण कीजिए।

10th schedule is related to anti defection provision. 52nd amendment added 10th schedule to provide for disqualification of members of legislature on basis of defection.

- Any member who voluntarily resigns from the political party or does not follow instructions of the party
- Independent members will be disqualified if they join a political party
- Nominated members can join a party within 6 months. After that, they will be disqualified.

91st amendment strengthened the law by banning group defections and limiting strength of Council of ministers to 15%.

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Also disqualified members were banned from holding office of profit.

However, the law has ~~bee~~ failed due to the following

a) Members shifting to different political parties

b) Partisan role played by Governor and Speaker.

c) Shifting alliances of legislators

d) Politics of interest rather than politics of ideology.

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20. It is the Parliamentary system, with its basis on constant accountability, accommodation and inclusion, which can best serve the needs of the country. Examine, keeping in mind the arguments that are periodically put forward for adopting the Presidential system in India.

यह निरंतर जवाबदेही, समायोजन और समावेशन पर आधारित संसदीय प्रणाली ही है, जो देश की आवश्यकताएं सर्वोत्तम ढंग से पूरी कर सकती है। भारत में राष्ट्रपति प्रणाली अपनाने के लिए समय-समय पर प्रस्तुत किए जाने वाले तर्कों को ध्यान में रखते हुए परीक्षण कीजिए।

Parliamentary system features

a) Harmony between Legislature and executive
b) Responsible government
c) Presence of dual executive
d) Leadership of Prime Minister
e) Dissolution of lower house
f) Wide representation
g) Double membership of ministers

Advantages:

a) Familiarity with the system when India gained independence
b) Accountability of the executive & the Council of Ministers to the Parliament

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Disadvantage : a) Against separation of power
b) Unstable government due to passage of no confidence motion
c) Government by amateurs

Thus Parliamentary System with its features ; promote constant accountability, accomo-dation and inclusion of wide variety of interest is suitable for the needs of the country.

Advantages of Presidential System

a) Stable government
b) Focus on performance
c) Separation of powers
d) Government by experts
e) Single executive ie rule of the President.

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given the instabilities of Parliamentary system, talks of shifting to Presidential system gain ground. However Presidential system comes with its own set of problems. Besides, changing the Parliamentary form would be a drastic measure and alter the basic structure of the Constitution.